



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

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ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS COURSE
FOR STATES PARTIES FROM THE ASIAN REGION
DHAKA, BANGLADESH
5 – 9 OCTOBER 2025**

1. The OPCW Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) wishes to invite States Parties from Asia to nominate participants for a training course on chemical incident preparedness for hospitals (HOSPREP), to be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from 5 to 9 October 2025.
2. The training course will be jointly organised by the Government of Bangladesh and the Secretariat. The main objective of the HOSPREP training is to establish a methodology for assessing institutional needs and providing solutions to common challenges faced by medical institutions dealing with the threat of chemical incidents. The training, whose primary focus is on hospital preparedness, is aimed at strengthening capacity building in the hospitals and medical institutions of States Parties that may be called upon to respond in the aftermath of an attack involving chemical warfare agents or toxic industrial chemicals. It will also promote the exchange of experiences, different approaches, and strategies for reducing gaps at medical institutions and increasing operational resilience when faced with such events.
3. The training programme will address the following topics: general concepts of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals; risk assessment for medical facilities; lessons learned in chemical emergencies; hospital preparedness; specific issues in hospital response; development of strategies and management in hospital models; preparation of programmes for health personnel; reception of victims and intra-hospital evaluation; processing of biological samples; and demonstration of national capacities in preparedness and response to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) threats and incidents.
4. The Secretariat expects to sponsor a maximum of 25 participants from medical facilities in Asian States Parties that are designated to respond to chemical emergencies. Candidates for this course should be physicians or nurses working at hospitals or other medical facilities designated to attend to victims in a chemical emergency, or other health workers involved in the planning, design, preparedness, and management of hospitals facing chemical emergencies. Additional aspects that may be considered for the selection of candidates include previous experience and knowledge of chemical emergencies, accreditation in CBRNE programmes, participation in previous national or regional events on hospital preparedness, responsibilities related to operational and clinical aspects of the response to chemical emergencies, and other relevant information.



5. Applications must be endorsed by the National Authority of the candidate's country and should specify whether or not sponsorship is a condition of their participation. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, airport transfers, medical insurance, and meals. In addition, it will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses.
6. The Secretariat will seek the most economical options when making travel arrangements for sponsored participants. Sponsored participants are expected to **arrive no earlier than Saturday, 4 October 2025 and to depart no later than Friday, 10 October 2025**. The Secretariat will not cover expenses that are not related to the course or that result from unauthorised changes in travel arrangements. Once the Secretariat has purchased their tickets, sponsored participants will be responsible for ensuring that they participate in the course. In the case of unforeseen circumstances, participants should immediately contact the focal points responsible for the course (see paragraph 10 below).
7. The course will be delivered in English. Participants are therefore expected to be proficient in English. In addition, all necessary visas (if required) should be obtained by the participants before travelling to Bangladesh.
8. Interested applicants are requested to register their nominations online through Eventus—the OPCW event management system—**no later than 21 August 2025**. The registration link is accessible via the OPCW website (<https://eventus.opcw.org>). Fields marked with an asterisk (*) in the online registration system are mandatory and must be answered in order for the candidate's application to be considered for this event. The Secretariat strongly encourages States Parties and National Authorities to seek, support, and endorse applications from qualified women candidates.
9. Only selected participants with an OPCW acceptance letter will be permitted to participate in this course. Candidates who have been selected to participate will be contacted no later than two weeks after the submission deadline. States Parties are requested to inform the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of any administrative or other problems that may arise in connection with the attendance of any selected participant.
10. The provisional programme for the training course is included as the Annex to this Note. For technical matters, the focal points for this training course are Mr Eduardo Herrera (Tel: +31 70 416 3466; Email: eduardo.herrera@opcw.org) and Ms Toko Okazaki (Email: toko.okazaki@opcw.org). Administrative questions relating to this training course may be addressed to Ms María Elena Bruno-Pousadela (Tel: +31 70 416 3217; Email: mariaelena.bruno-pousadela@opcw.org) in the Assistance and Protection Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division.

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS COURSE
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DHAKA, BANGLADESH
5 – 9 OCTOBER 2025**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity	Instructor
Saturday, 4 October 2025		
Arrival of participants		
Day 1: Sunday, 5 October 2025		Location: Hotel
08:00 – 08:30	Registration of participants	
08:30 – 09:30	Opening ceremony	OPCW, National Authority
09:30 – 10:00	Group photo	OPCW, National Authority
10:00 – 10:40	Introduction of participants	OPCW and National Authority representatives
10:40 – 11:00	Course overview and administrative briefing	National Authority
11:00 – 11:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
11:15 – 11:50	An overview of chemical threats: classification, properties, and routes of exposure to chemical weapons agents and toxic industrial chemicals, chemical industrial accidents, and chemical terrorism	Instructors from OPCW and National Authority
11:50 – 12:30	The Chemical Weapons Convention and Article X on assistance and protection: the Medical Action Plan	Instructor from OPCW
12:30 – 13:10	Detection of chemical warfare agents	Instructor from Bangladesh
13:10 – 14:10	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:10 – 14:45	Orientation with personal protective equipment (PPE) and decontamination procedures	Instructor from OPCW
14:45 – 15:45	Practical session with PPE: donning and doffing	All instructors
15:45 – 16:00	Summary of the day and discussion	All instructors
19:30 – 22:00	<i>Welcome dinner</i>	National Authority
Day 2: Monday, 6 October 2025		Location: Hotel
08:30 – 09:45	Medical management of casualties of chemical warfare and disasters	Instructor from OPCW
09:45 – 10:30	Chemical disaster preparedness for hospitals and emergency departments: basic concepts and theoretical review	Instructor from Bangladesh
10:30 – 11:05	Triage of chemical casualties	Instructor from

Time	Activity	Instructor
		Bangladesh
11:05 – 11:20	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
11:20 – 13:00	Medical treatment of chemical casualties in hospitals: phase I	Instructor from OPCW
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00 – 15:00	Medical treatment of chemical casualties in hospitals: phase II	Instructor from OPCW
15:00 – 15:45	Case studies (one incident each from Bangladesh and abroad)	Instructor from OPCW and National Authority
15:45 – 16:00	Summary of the day and discussion	All Instructors
Day 3: Tuesday, 7 October 2025 (Hospital demonstration)		Location: Combined Military Hospital, Dhaka
08:00 – 08:35	Transfer from hotel to the Combined Military Hospital, Dhaka	
08:35 – 09:35	Demonstration of chemical casualty management (patient flow and isolation protocols)	Instructor from Bangladesh
09:35 – 11:00	Tabletop exercise	Instructor from Bangladesh
11:00 – 11:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
11:45 – 13:00	Field exercise I: – briefing – receiving patients transported by vehicle – decontamination of victims – medical procedures	All instructors
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00 – 14:45	Familiarisation with the facility	Instructor from Bangladesh
14:45 – 15:00	Summary of the day and discussion	All instructors
15:00 – 15:30	Transfer to the hotel	
17:00 – 21:00	Field visit (Zamuna Future Park)	
Day 4: Wednesday, 8 October 2025		Location: Kurmitola General Hospital, Dhaka
08:00 – 08:30	Transfer from hotel to Kurmitola General Hospital, Dhaka	
08:30 – 09:10	Mass casualty planning at hospitals	Instructor from OPCW
09:10 – 11:00	Field exercise II: - briefing - receiving patients transported by vehicle - decontamination of victims - medical procedures	All instructors
11:00 – 11:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	

Time	Activity	Instructor
11:45 – 12:20	Group discussion and debriefing on the field exercise	All instructors
12:20 – 13:00	Familiarisation with the facility	Instructor from Bangladesh
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00 – 14:30	Transfer from hospital to hotel	
16:00 – 19:00	Field visit (Military Museum)	National Authority
Day 5: Thursday, 9 October, 2025		Location: Hotel
08:30 – 10:30	Participants share information about their country's health systems preparing for receiving casualties of chemical incidents	Participants
10:30 – 11:30	Review of the key lessons	National Authority
11:30 – 12:00	Course evaluation and feedback	OPCW
12:00 – 12:30	Closure and certificate awarding ceremony	OPCW and National Authority
12:30	End of course	
Day 6: Friday, 10 October 2025		
Departure of instructors and participants		

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